Protocol for Measuring Text Complexity

Text being measured: _____

Type of Text: Literary ____   Informational ____

I.   **Quantitative Measures**:

Find the appropriate grade band for the text using the chart below. (If Lexile measures are not available, you may locate the text's Lexile level at: www.Lexile.com)

Text Complexity Grade Band in the Standards	Lexile Ranges Aligned to CCR expectations
K-1	N/A
2-3	420-820
4-5	740-1010
6-8	925-1185
9-10	1050-1335
11-CCR	1185-1385

Text Complexity Grade Band based upon quantitative measures from above: _____

II.   **Qualitative Measures:**

   A.   Read the text or excerpt. Record any ideas, vocabulary, or text characteristics that could make this text difficult to read.

   B.   Use the *Text Complexity: Qualitative Measures Rubric* that corresponds to the appropriate text type (literary/informational). Check the appropriate boxes that correspond to each qualitative measure category.

C. Based upon the findings from the rubric, identify the complexity descriptor for each category of qualitative measures and include any notes to extend your thinking.

Qualitative Measures Categories	Complexity Descriptor (e.g., Very Complex, Complex, Somewhat Complex, Simple)	Notes Examples: Language: Uses some figurative language (e.g., juxtaposing literal *bread* with the metaphorical *bread of knowledge*). Knowledge Demands: general background knowledge about slavery and race in mid-nineteenth-century America is helpful.
Levels of Meaning/Purpose		
Structure		
Language Conventionality and Clarity		
Knowledge Demands		

III.   Reader-Task Considerations:
These are to be determined locally with reference to such variables as a student's motivation, knowledge, and experiences as well as purpose and the complexity of the task assigned and the questions posed.

Participants should engage in deep discussions regarding the specific text and their learners' backgrounds and needs.

IV.   Recommended Placement:
Based upon the text complexity grade band derived from quantitative measures, information gathered using the qualitative rubric, and any reader-task considerations, recommend a text complexity band for this text.

(Complexity bands: K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, 9-10, or 11-12)

RECOMMENDED PLACEMENT: _____